

FOCH SAYS RIVER IS ONLY DEFENSE

"Without This Military Frontier We Will Have Fought in Vain," Foch.

NOT DEMANDING ANNEXATION

Germans Want To Know If They Are To Be Allowed to Discuss Peace Treaty.

Paris, March 21.—"The Rhine is our only good line of defense. I do not demand annexation, but if we do not secure that military frontier we will have fought in vain," is a statement made by Marshal Foch, quoted in an interview printed in the *Matin* today.

In discussing the last days of the war, the marshal says: "It was the wonderful soldiers who gave us victory. My only merit was to have had faith and never to have despaired. We signed the armistice in the certainty of crushing the German armies, to avoid killing one more man and because it gave us everything necessary to a French victory."

Basic, March 21.—The president of the German army committee, Dr. Spa, has presented a note to the Inter-Allied delegates asking if Germany should consider as true statements in the French and British press that the Peace Treaty would be ready for the German approval as soon as President Wilson approves it. The committee would be allowed neither to discuss nor modify the document, according to Berlin advices.

SEAMEN WILL NOT OPERATE SHIPS

Refuse to Carry Out Work on Ships Demanded By Entente.

Berlin, March 21.—The German seamen's union, the *Seemannsbund*, has decided to refuse to carry out work on ships demanded by the Entente. The union has received a report from General Zeppelin of the battle with the Villa rebels which occurred Wednesday 15 miles south of the New Mexico border. Fifty-three Villa followers were killed. Three bodies taken to Acapulco, Chihuahua, were identified by residents there as those of Martin Lopez, Villa's second in command; Ramon Vera, a Villa general; and Epifanio Rodriguez, a bandit leader.

The battle which occurred at a place called Boquilla del Marquero, commenced early Wednesday. General Zeppelin's forces numbered 300 and the rebels approximately the same. According to Zeppelin the rebels were short of ammunition and were forced to charge when they were moved down by the single machine gun with which the Federals were armed. The rebels fled, leaving their dead on the field.

The Federal losses were reported to be 15 killed, including a former Zapata general, who received amnesty and was commanding a troop of Federal cavalry, including a number of his former Zapata followers.

Martin Lopez had been with Villa since he was a boy and for the last two years he was his personal lieutenant. It was Lopez who first initiated the practice of dynamiting trains and robbing the passengers. Lopez with his brother, Pablo, participated in the riot on Columbus, N. M., in March, 1915. Lopez was wounded and was later captured and taken to Chihuahua City, where he was executed.

Washington, March 21.—The Treasury today authorized the immediate redemption of a block of \$312,000,000 in certificates of indebtedness dated December 6, and maturing ordinarily May 6, at par and accrued interest to the date of redemption.

DOWNWARD MOVE. MENT CONTINUES.

New York, March 21.—The downward movement of exchange on London which began yesterday, when the British treasury withdrew its war-time support of the market, continued today, although little business was transacted during the forenoon and rates were nominal.

Quotations ranged from 46 1/2 for cables to 48 1/2 for demand and 60 day bills were quoted at 46 1/2. These rates are one-half to one and one-half cents under yesterday's minimum quotation.

AIR SERVICE CAUSALITIES.

Washington, March 21.—Casualties in the United States air service personnel, serving with the American and Allied armies at the front numbered 534. Of the total, 171 men were killed in combat.

REMOVE RESTRICTION

Washington, March 21.—All restrictions on sale or purchase of Italian *Lira* exchange by "dealers" as described in the President's executive order of January 26, 1918, covering foreign exchange restrictions, were ordered removed today by the Federal Reserve Board until further notice.

Baker Replies Chamberlain Cause Of Present System

Answers Charges Made By Senator By Saying That He Never Presented to Senate Amendment Offered By Baker Over Year Ago.

Yuma, Ariz., March 21.—Secretary of War Newton D. Baker, who is on an inspection tour of army camps, replying to charges made yesterday in Washington by Senator Chamberlain of Oregon, chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee, that the secretary was under the influence of reactionaries opposed to changes in the army court martial system, said that the senator himself caused to be enacted the system he is attacking.

Secretary Baker and his party passed through here late last night and are expected to reach St. Paul today.

Secretary Baker's statement follows: "I can not permit myself to be drawn into a newspaper controversy with Senator Chamberlain about officers of the army to whom I hold an official relation and whose conduct I must judge dispassionately and upon all the evidence I can obtain."

"It is my duty to state and to Senator Chamberlain's, and I shall perform it unbiased and unharmed by abuse and agitation."

"It is important, however, to note that the system of courts martial and of military justice which the senator attacks is one which he himself caused to be enacted in 1916, when it was presented by me as a reform and a modification of the previously existing irregularities."

"It is also important to note that the amendment which I sent to Senator Chamberlain as chairman of the military affairs committee of the senate more than a year ago, and more than a year before the occasion for the present discussion, has, so far as I know, never even been presented by him to the military affairs committee for consideration."

LOPEZ, VILLA'S AIDE IS DEAD

53 of Bandit Chief's Followers Killed on Wednesday.

Juneau, March 21.—Colonel J. Agustín Mora, in command of the Federal garrison here, has received a report from General Zeppelin of the battle with the Villa rebels which occurred Wednesday 15 miles south of the New Mexico border. Fifty-three Villa followers were killed. Three bodies taken to Acapulco, Chihuahua, were identified by residents there as those of Martin Lopez, Villa's second in command; Ramon Vera, a Villa general; and Epifanio Rodriguez, a bandit leader.

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WEALTHY WOMAN LEADS STRIKING TEXTILE WORKERS

Lawrence, Mass., March 21.—The striking textile workers were led today by a wealthy woman in their picketing of the mill district at the opening hour today by Mrs. Glendower Evans, a wealthy resident of Brookline. She was on the picket line at 8:30 a. m. and led a large crowd of strikers in a protest of the mill gates for two hours. There were no disorders.

Mrs. Evans, who is a stockholder in the Arlington mills who are involved in the strike, said she would continue her active interest in the striking employees because she thought they should obtain their demands for a 48-hour working week without losing any of the pay they received under the former 54-hour schedule.

GOV. EDGE WAS SURPRISED.

At a banquet of the Associated Manufacturers of Electric Supplies, held last night in Delmonico's, New York, and at which the Manufacturers' Union of Bridgeport, 40 strong, rendered several musical numbers, Governor Edge of New Jersey in an address referred to Bridgeport. He said:

"Recently I spoke in Bridgeport at a banquet of the Manufacturers' Association there, and I was surprised when I picked up the menu card to notice an outline of the Port of Bridgeport on the back. I was surprised to see that Bridgeport was going to take the Port of New York to Bridgeport."

Many of the folks who are now tearing their hair so violently about the prohibition amendment, were reading the *Evening News* most of the time the amendment was under discussion.

YOUNG BURGLARS PRACTICE VERY OLD TRICK

After breaking into the Ideal Laundry, 57 Commercial street, last night, the youthful burglars busied themselves by sucking a dozen of eggs and throwing the shells about the floor. The only articles stolen from the premises were two auto stencils and a fountain pen. No clothing was taken. Entrance to the laundry was made by tearing the sheet tin covering from a rear window.

COULDN'T AGREE ON PRESIDENT

Reason Why Negotiations Were Broken Off At Posten by the Germans.

Paris, March 21.—A semi-official German note explaining the reason for breaking off negotiations at Posten says it has been impossible to reach an agreement, especially regarding the presidency of the commission controlling the situation. The German says they are considering the appointment of President by Pope Benedict, while the Entente nations desire the permanent Inter-Allied armistice commission to name the presiding officer. The Supreme Council will consider the Posten situation today and will take up measures to be carried out against the Germans to bring about a cessation of hostilities in the province of Poland.

Berlin, March 21.—(via London)

Regarding the interruption of the negotiations between the Germans and the Allied commission to Poland at Posten, a German semi-official statement says the negotiations were interrupted because of differences over the composition of the commission to be carrying out of the agreement which according to the Allied plan, would have given the Allies a majority on the commission. The statement adds:

"The rupture is no loss to German interests, because the Entente's military proposals likewise do not satisfy the German claims."

WAR PHYSICIAN GIVEN DIVORCE

Wealthy Dr. Don. J. Knowlton of Greenwich Said Wife Deserted Him.

Dr. Don J. Knowlton, wealthy Greenwich physician who has just returned from France where he won a member of the Harvard Medical Corps, was granted a divorce from Doris Earle Knowlton by Judge Greene in the Superior court this afternoon. Desertion was the ground.

Dr. Knowlton said he married the defendant in 1913. He was a student at Harvard. After his graduation the couple lived for a time at Knowlton's camp in Winthrop, Me., and then moved to Greenwich in 1913. They did not get along well, the doctor testified.

The wife left him three times, he said, but was induced to return. On March 6, 1915, she went away again and did not come back. Later he received two letters from her in which she asked him to get a divorce so she could marry William J. Boyd. Dr. Knowlton said he did not answer the letters.

WEDDED NIECE; ASKS FREEDOM

Charles Freedman Starts Suit—Olive Jackson Also Seeks Divorce.

Friday, March 21.—Alleging that he wedded his niece, Charles Freedman of this city filed papers in the Superior court today asking that his marriage to Minnie Freedman of this city be annulled. The plaintiff says the ceremony was performed in February, 1917, when the bride was 20 years old. He says they never lived together.

Another divorce action filed today was brought by Olive T. Jackson of this city against Reuben R. Jackson of this city. She alleges desertion in 1903. The couple were married November 4, 1906, the wife's maiden name having been Olive Brooks.

Percy A. Mohr, of the city, wants a decree from Bertha McElwain of this city. He alleges his wife left him November 10, 1915. The marriage took place in 1912.

The suit is also the ground in the suit started by Jennie Davis of this city against Harry Davis of this city. It is claimed that the wife left the plaintiff March 6, 1907. The couple were married in 1904.

Supt. Dorman of Mt. Grove Cemetery Suing for Divorce

Friday, March 21.—Testimony in the divorce suit brought by Supt. Burton H. Dorman of Mountain Grove cemetery against Flora M. Dorman will be heard before Attorney Samuel F. Beardsley as a committee. The appointment was made today by Judge Greene in the Superior court. Desertion and intolerable cruelty are the grounds alleged by Dorman. The wife has filed a cross complaint in which she claims Dorman was guilty of cruelty.

Confirm Receiver For Congress Lunch

Friday, March 21.—The appointment of Judge Frank L. Wilder as receiver for the Congress Lunch on Boston avenue, was confirmed by Judge Greene of the Superior court. Judge Wilder was named temporary receiver several weeks ago upon petition of Emanuel Taub, a partner in the business. The court today named Frank Canavari and Henry Spitz as appraisers.

ITALY THREATENS TO QUIT COUNCIL

Forty Of 51 Plants Have Instituted Shop Committee

Willard G. Aborn Declares That Some Shops Have Named Committees After a Fashion Which War Labor Board Will Investigate Before Approval—Labor Members Say They Will Resign.

Willard G. Aborn, Administrative Adviser in the local office of the War Labor Board said today "The work of the shop committees elected in Bridgeport has been going on rapidly, and the 51 plants still remaining parties to the award, over 40 have instituted shop committees. About 35 of them under the auspices and by-laws of the National War Labor Board and the balance under some other methods. These are being investigated, and approved, if found satisfactory by the National War Labor Board."

THIS JUNKER BAD AS PRUSSIAN KIND

Capt. Smith of Salvation Army Pleads For Mercy For Rich Man's Son.

Captain Oscar Smith of the Salvation Army arrived from Indianapolis this morning and interceded before the City court in the interest of Allen P. Wheeler, the 18 year old youth recently arrested on a charge of theft. Wheeler is the son of a very wealthy Indianapolis manufacturer. Junker's father asked the Salvation army some time ago to help locate his son. After the declaration of war young Junker, being under age, ran away from home and joined the marines. He later deserted his organization at Paris Island, S. C., and came to this city where he took up a residence in a lodging house on Water street. He secured employment with E. L. Graves and the two other labor representatives on the board of mediation and Conciliation who are charged by Samuel Levi, one of the labor representatives on the board with refusing to put the award in force in their own plants by having committees elected under the supervision of the War Labor Board.

Mr. Miller says that shop committees have been in operation in his shop for six months. Mr. Levi says that they are not elected under the auspices of the War Labor Board, and the two other labor representatives on the board of mediation and Conciliation who are charged by Samuel Levi, one of the labor representatives on the board with refusing to put the award in force in their own plants by having committees elected under the supervision of the War Labor Board.

Osborne Succeeds Hincks As W. S. S. Head in Bridgeport

Friday, March 21.—H. S. Osborne of 184 Wentworth street was appointed city chairman on the state committee for war savings stamps when William T. Hincks' resignation was accepted at the meeting of the state committee yesterday at the Hotel Heublein, Hartford.

Hincks who has been on the city committee since the beginning of the war savings stamp drive, felt that now with the war over, his patriotic duty was completed and desired to have the chairman's place in other hands, so that he may be able to devote more of his time to his other duties.

Gov. Marcus H. Holcomb was the guest of honor at the luncheon which followed by a conference at the Center church house for the purpose of discussing plans for the war work under the direction of Mrs. Richard Russell, Connecticut director of the committee present were Postmaster Charles F. Greene, W. S. Meyer and H. S. Osborne.

The Connecticut committee was congratulated on the fact that Connecticut so far exceeded the other New England states in per capita sales thus far in 1919.

Chairman Osborne will organize his committee next week when plans for the work will also be completed.

DEVON FAVORS BRIDGEPORT PORT

Friday, March 21.—The Bridgeport Chamber of Commerce in its report of a letter from the Devon Improvement Association in which the Port of Bridgeport project is approved and the support of the Devon association pledged with an offer of any assistance desired.

The association desires to express its hearty approval of your Port of Bridgeport project, and at a recent meeting a unanimous vote was passed to assure you of our co-operation. We too, are making an effort to obtain a public dock here at Devon and the plan you are so energetically pushing will, we are sure, be of great benefit not only to Bridgeport but to this and other localities surrounding your city.

While we may not, from the nature of the matter be able to give you any direct assistance we are ready and willing to lend any help you may suggest. We want you to feel assured of our every effort to foster in every way possible this very desirable undertaking."

CLAIM PUFFER TOOK OWN LIFE

Hartford, March 21.—Lewis R. Puffer, 26, of 1628 Boulevard, West Hartford, was struck and instantly killed by a shifting engine in the New York New Haven and Hartford railroad yards on Windsor street today. He was horribly mangled, both legs being completely severed from the body. The left leg was found about 150 yards from where the engine stood. Puffer was employed in the office of the Automatic Refrigeration Co. The engineer and fireman claim Puffer deliberately jumped in front of the engine while others say he attempted to jump on for a ride and slipped, going under the wheels. Puffer's wife survives him. It is said his parents live in Massachusetts. He was recently honorably discharged from the aviation service.

Decision Apparently Brings to Head Bitter Controversy Over Fiume.

QUARREL WITH JUGO-SLAVS

New Nation Claims Cause of Dispute is Essentially Croatian.

Paris, March 21.—(By the Associated Press)—The Italian delegation to the Peace Conference has unanimously decided to withdraw from the conference unless Fiume is assigned to Italy contemporaneously with the conclusion of peace.

The decision was reached at a meeting today of the full delegation presided over by Premier Orlando. It was immediately communicated to the Powers.

Colonel E. M. House, of the American mission, promised Premier Orlando to present within a few days a project concerning the Italian-Jugo-Slav frontier which he hopes will satisfactorily settle the dispute.

The decision of the Italian delegation, as reported from Paris, apparently brings to a head the bitter controversy between Italy and the new Jugo-Slav state over the disposition of land along the Adriatic, formerly belonging to the Austro-Hungarian empire, which both nationalities claim.

Italy's claims originally included virtually the entire Dalmatian coast, with Trieste and Fiume, which latter city is the second principal seaport on the eastern side of the Adriatic. Recent reports have been manifesting a disposition to make important concessions regarding the land along the Dalmatian coast, provided that the city and harbor of Fiume be returned to Italy. The Jugo-Slavs, however, have been insisting that this port be allotted to a Croatian city and necessary to the new Jugo-Slav state as affording the only feasible sea outlet for her commerce.

On the other hand, Italy has shown no disposition to yield her point so far as Fiume was concerned. Her attitude was officially stated by Premier Orlando in addressing the Italian Chamber of Deputies on March 1, when he declared that while Italy remained "faithful to the spirit of conciliation which inspired the treaty upon which Italy entered the war," that it did not mean that she could "remain insensible to the appeal reaching her from the Italian town on the Gulf of Quarnero (Fiume), which was 'expedited to the loss of both its nationality and independence. We do not think,' added the premier, 'that this is possible at the very moment when it is wished that the world may be redeemed from a memory of violence done to the rights of peoples.'

There have been several "incidents" at Fiume and other points in the territory claimed by both Italy and Jugo-Slavia, since the signing of the armistice, and the feud at one time grew so bitter that the Italian army blockaded and cut off food relief in blocks for the interior. This matter was adjusted by the Supreme Council in Paris, however, and recent reports have indicated that an amicable settlement of the conflicting Italian-Jugo-Slav claims was possible.

Just what has caused the Italian delegation to announce its determination on the Fiume question at this time has not been developed in the Paris advices. It is known, however, that the question of territorial adjustments has been for the conferences of premiers which have been taking place during the past day or two.

An Associated Press dispatch received last night from Paris regarding a conference held yesterday between President Wilson and Premiers Clemenceau and Lloyd George stated that there was every reason to believe that the frontier issues were among the foremost obstacles which the conference was seeking to remove from the path to a rapid conclusion of the Peace Treaty.

Fiume, before the war, was the chief seaport of the Hungarian kingdom. It has several harbors, and its position and facilities made it the seat of virtually the entire shipping trade of Hungary. It had an ante-bellum population of nearly 40,000.

RUSSIAN PRESS IS SATIRICAL

Vladivostok, Monday, March 17.—The content of the Russian press in Vladivostok on the seagull of Nations is satirical, pointing to the results of Allied occupation of Siberia as an object lesson. The Allies, the newspapers say, had decided to restore order and good government to Russia and sent detachments of troops with no good results, owing to the impossibility of an agreement over the methods to be followed. The real result, they declare, is loss of Allied prestige in Russia.

A grave instance pointed to is the transportation problem, as yet untouched, it is declared, owing to the difficulties of Allied agreement, the railway situation in the meantime growing worse weekly. The situation in the country is generally worse than last autumn and Bolshevist sentiment apparently is growing in Siberia.

SOLDIER BEATEN AND ROBBED

Stamford, March 21.—George Britt, 227 Zion street, Hartford, was beaten and robbed here last night by a man he met on a train on his way to Hartford. Britt, a discharged soldier, was relieved of \$60 and his discharge papers. He was found unconscious in a street by a policeman and was taken to the Stamford hospital. Britt said he and the stranger got off the train here to play "billiards."